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as responsible for the enforcement of a correct decision as though the international principle were already more clearly formulated. Our country should decide what its duties are and enact the necessary legislation to fulfill its conception of them. The scope of the present work has been limited to the remedy of defects discovered through past experience, and does not propose legislation to meet the obvious difficulties of the future, some of which have materialized since the appearance of this book.

It would be ungrateful in the extreme, however, to insist upon the possibility of broadening the scope of a work which has been so excellently done within the limits proposed. Dr. Fenwick is certainly to be congratulated.

ROBERT T. CRANE.

*An Economic History of Russia.* By JAMES MAVOR. (New York: J. M. Dent and Sons, 1914. Vol. I, pp. 614; vol. II, pp. 630.)

Mr. Mavor's work has been out for several months, and has received very favorable comment from many quarters. It helps to fill a large gap; we have few solid studies of Russian economic and political conditions that are accessible to the student who can not go to the Russian sources. This very fact was probably responsible for the kind of book the writer felt called upon to give us. Perhaps his treatment by topics was the most satisfactory method for handling the problem that confronted him. It then became a question of arranging the material within each chapter, paying less attention to the sequence of the chapters.

The sources used by the author are most varied in character. In the first place Mr. Mavor has spent considerable time in Russia, and has observed for himself. Here he has shown keen judgment and careful discrimination. Then he has used very freely the best general history of Russia, that of Kluchevsky. This entire work, perhaps the best that recent Russian scholarship has produced, has been translated into English, the fourth and last volume being in the last stages of preparation. Mr. Mavor had begun his work before this translation was undertaken. For the earlier periods the writer uses similar, acknowledged Russian authorities on more special subjects, as for instance the works of Semevsky, on the peasant question. This is one of the most valuable sides of the work before us; it familiarizes English readers with the writings of Russia's best scholars.

There are certain books which every student of Russian history must use. The best account of the history of the social Democratic party in Russia is that of Lyadov. To understand the interesting movement of the seventies of the last century, the so-called "movement to the people," the reminiscences of Debogory-Mokreyevich are invaluable. Mokreyevich took a prominent part in this movement, but he describes it with remarkable clearness and impartiality. Other similar books could be enumerated. Here again Mr. Mavor has done a great service by giving full excerpts and citations from these books. He has shown excellent judgment in the selection of his materials.

The writer does not confine himself to purely economic questions. He gives a chapter on the political police system that produced a man like Azev, who was at the same time in the terrorist organization, and in the employ of the government. He analyses the "rationale" of this system very clearly: "An autocratic government is obliged to make itself aware of oppositional movements in time to counteract them, whether these movements are intended to have a violent issue or not. The police system, with its espionage, is thus an incident inseparable from autocracy. . . . The transition from espionage to 'provocation' is inevitable; for the spy who has gained admission to the center of a revolutionary organization, must act as a revolutionist, or he would be immediately suspected. The 'perfect spy' must not betray continuously, therefore, but only occasionally, in order to prepare a magnificent *coup* in which the revolutionary movement should be altogether crushed." In a note Mr. Mavor suggests the argument that "the system of espionage is inseparable from government per se, the chronic condition of crisis through which the Russian government has been passing for upwards of a century merely accounting for its special manifestations in Russia."

A chapter on "Police Socialism" gives an interesting picture of another somewhat similar method of procedure practiced by the Russian police authorities. It describes the ideas and activities of a certain Mr. Zubatov, who has given his name to all methods of this type in Russia. The police organized the workmen into unions, and ordered the factory owners to employ only union men. The police dictated the conditions of employment, and also fixed the wages. But the "policy of controlling the labor movement, and of separating it from the revolutionary movement—that was the idea of Zubatov's manoeuvres—with the design of turning it to the account of autocracy, came to a disastrous end."

The chapters on various aspects of peasant conditions are some of the best in the book. The writer states the general character of the important agrarian reforms now in progress in Russia.

There is one question that one would expect to find treated in an economic history; it is the question of commercial treaties, and of tariff and protectionist policies. This point has been of particular interest these last years, and the negotiations preliminary to the renewal of a commercial treaty between Russia and Germany were a considerable factor in creating the state of mind which accounted for the attitude taken by the Russian public in the present crisis. The policy of Berlin to keep Russia in a kind of economic dependence on Germany, had created much feeling in Russia. Again we find no mention of the recent legislation with regard to workmen insurance. This law, it is true, was passed only recently, and is still in the first stages of application. But it shows what Russia is doing in this line, and some of the provisions in the Russian law are novel and interesting.

On a few minor points the reviewer feels that a word of criticism is necessary. There are several bad mistakes. The Franco-Russian Alliance is spoken of as an Entente. The great reactionary adviser of three emperors, Pobedonotsev, is indicated as still alive. Again in the matter of transliteration of Russian terms and words, there is lack of system or uniformity, all of which points to inadequate revision, which is particularly unfortunate in a work of this character. The abbreviation of Russian terms, such as "gub," is annoying. We are now having more serious studies of Russia; it is therefore time that English writers adopt the system of their German and French colleagues, and *transliterate* the titles of the Russian books cited. It is very difficult to reestablish the exact title from a translation, and only those who know Russian can use the references. A translation of the title might be added, to show the general character of the book cited, for the reader who does not know Russian.

This important contribution to the meagre literature on Russia accessible to the general student, is most welcome. It is easy to pick out important oversights in a book covering so long a period and so many aspects of the life of a country. But such books are necessary at the beginning, and we are at last at the beginning of an effort to develop the serious study of things Russian, both in England and in America.

SAMUEL N. HARPER.